



Maryland Department of Transportation
The Secretary's Office

Martin O'Mailey
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley
Secretary

Harold M. Bartlett
Deputy Secretary

August 26, 2010

Mr. Matt Dietrich
Executive Director
Ohio Rail Development Commission
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43223

RE: Maryland Review of National Gateway Clearance Initiative Documentation

Dear Mr. Dietrich:

The State of Maryland has reviewed the following documents:

Draft Environmental Assessment and Section 4(f) Evaluation
Phase I: National Gateway Clearance Initiative

Draft Maryland Phase I National Gateway Clearance Initiative Documentation

The Maryland Department of Transportation supports these documents, concurs with the findings and actions taken in these documents, and considers the documents appropriate for public comment. We recommend the Ohio Rail Development Commission, on behalf of the coalition of states supporting the National Gateway TIGER Grant, submit the documents to the Federal Railroad Administration and Federal Highway Administration for review and to initiate the public review process. This will maintain the current schedule to begin construction on the Gateway corridor in November 2010.

Thank you for your assistance with this critical infrastructure project. Please do not hesitate to call me at 410-865-1002, with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harold M. Bartlett".

Harold Bartlett
Deputy Secretary